

Message Text

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ACTION LAB-04

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ILO ELAB EC XM

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR INFO ON ILO ACTIVITIES

REF: (A) STATE 203991, (B) STATE 206221

1. ILO PROGRAMMING DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS IN ECUADOR HAS BEEN VERY LIMITED. ONLY CURRENT ILO PRESENCE IN ECUADOR CONSISTS OF ONE TECHNICIAN WORKING IN THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROFESSIONAL REHABILITATION, AND AGENCY OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOR AND ONE REMAINING TECHNICIAN WITH SECAP, THE NATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING INSTITUTE. THE REHABILITATION PROJECT BEGAN LAST JANUARY AND IS SCHEDULED TO LAST JUST ONE YEAR. THE SECAP PROJECT IS CURRENTLY TERMINATING (ILO PROJECT NO. ECU 73007).

2. SECAP PROJECT MENTIONED ABOVE AND ONE PROJECT WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF LABOR (REF B, PARA 4) HAVE BEEN THE ONLY TWO MAJOR PROJECTS IN ECUADOR WITHIN THE PAST TWO YEARS AND BOTH ARE VIEWED BY THE ECUADOREAN GOVERNMENT AS SUCCESSES. THE SECAP PROJECT WAS ADEQUATELY FINANCED AND THE GREATEST SHARE OF THE ILO TECHNICIANS WERE HIGHLY QUALIFIED. ALL HAD PROPER LANGUAGE COMPETENCE. THE SECAP SUCCESS WAS DIMINISHED BY THE FACT THAT SPAIN,

ENGLAND AND SWITZERLAND, AS WELL AS THE ILO, HAD TECH-
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NICIANS IN SECAP AT THE SAME TIME. THERE WERE, IN FACT,

MORE FOREIGN EXPERTS THAN SECAP COULD ABOSRB. THERE WERE ALSO, ACCORDING TOSOME SOURCES, PERSONAL PROBLEMS BETWEEN SOME OF THE ILO TECHNICIANS AND THE HEAJIOF THE UNDP IN ECUADOR, JUAN PASCOE. HOWEVER, IN SPITE OF THE PROBLEMS, IT IS GENERALLY AGREED THAT THE PRESENCE OR THE ILO TEAM HERE LEFT VALUABLE FOUNDATIONS THEW SECAP CAN BUILD ON. THERE REMAINS ONE ILO EMPLOYEE WITH SECAP BUT HE WILL BE DEPARTING IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

3. THE UNDP-FINANCED LABOR ADMINISTRATION PROJECT (REF B, PARA 4) IS COMPLETED AND IS REGARDED AS A SUCCESS WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF LABOR. THE PROJECT RESULTED IN THE INTERNAL REORGANIZATION OF THE MINISTRY AND IN THE FORMATION OF SEVERAL NEW DEPARTMENTS. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERTS WITHIN THE MINISTRY BELIEVE THAT THE ORGANIZATION FUNCTIONS BETTER AS A RESULT OF THE PROJECT. MANY OF THE CHANGES RECOMMENDED BY THE ILO EXPERT WERE ALREADY IN THE PLANNING STAGES. THE ILO PRESENCE TENDED, HOWEVER, TO PROVIDE A GREATER MOTIVATION FOR CHANGE. THE ILO TECHNICIAN INVOLVED IN IN THIS PROJECT WAS HIGHLY QUALIFIED AND THE PROJECT WAS ADEQUATELY FUNDED.

4. THE THREE-MAN MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT MENTIONED IN REF B, PCNA 3, ACCORDING TO UNDP REP. PASCOE, NEVER GOET BEYOND THE PLANNING STAGES. HE PERSONALLY TAKES CREDIT FOR HAVING KILLED THE IDEA AS AN UNNECESSARY WASTE OF MONEY.

5. UNDEP REP. PASCOE ALSO INFORMED REPORTING OFFICER THAT IN 1975 THE ILO SPONSORED A STUDY OF EMPLOYMENT IN ECUADOR WITH THE NATIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL (JUNTA DE PLANIFICACION). HE WAS PLEASED WITH THE RESULTS.

6. THE EXPERIENCE OF THE GOE WITH ILO PROJECTS HAS ENCOURAGED THEM TO ASK FOR GREATER ASSISTANCE. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO SOURCES CLOSE TO THE MINISTRY OF LABOR, THE ILO HAS PLEADED LACK OF RESOURCES FOR NEW PROJECTS AND HAS, AT LEAST ONE ONE OCCASION, BLAMED THE US DUES ARREARAGE FOR BEING THE CAUSE. ALSO, THE ANDEAN PACT NATIONS ARE COOPERATING IN THE LABOR FIELD AND HAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ASKED THE ILO TO PROGRAM REGIONAL ACTIVITIES. THE ILO HAS RESPONDED IN THE NEGATIVE, ONCE AGAIN DENYING THAT FUNDS ARE AVILABLE FOR NEW PROGRAMS.

7. THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN UNABLE TO LEARN ANYTHING ABOUT THE JANUARY 1975 MEETING IN QUITO ON LEGAL PROBLEMS IN THE APPLICATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY LEGISLATION FROM IN-HOUSE OR DISCREET SOURCES (REF B, PARA 5). IF THE

DEPARTMENT WISHES, WE CAN QUERY THE ECUADOREAN
SOCIAL SECURITY INSTITUTE SPECIFICALLY.WE DOUBT THAT
THIS WOULD AFFECT SERIOUSLY ANY LOCAL SENSITIVITIES.
BLOOMFIELD

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